



Mayor Mark Mallory

City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street, Room 150, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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Mayor Mallory Releases 2008 City Budget **Mayor's Budget adds Police overtime for extra Patrols, increases funding for human services, and eliminates proposed solid waste fee**

Mayor Mark Mallory presented his budget recommendations and the 2008 Budget Update to City Council. Praising the collaborative spirit that led to a unanimous budget last year, Mayor Mallory recommended continuing to fund the priorities that were laid out in the 2007/2008 City Budget, including investing in police overtime to improve public safety, and funding human service programs to provide a safety net for citizens. The Mayor also recommended eliminating proposed fees on solid waste and gas lights.

"Last year, City Council and I set a new course for Cincinnati by unanimously passing the budget for 2007 and 2008 aimed to strengthen and grow Cincinnati by investing in key priorities," Mayor Mallory said. "In order to maintain our momentum and see further progress, we must continue to invest in the priorities and strategies that are working and showing results."

"Last year, we made significant increases in the City's investment Safety Services, such as Police Visibility Overtime and Human Services," Mayor Mallory said. "Given the significant progress that we made on improving public safety in 2007, we cannot afford to reduce the funding to those two important areas in 2008. We must continue our investment to ensure that the results are sustained."

The Mayor's Budget Recommendations:

- Restore \$950,000 to Police Visibility Overtime
- Restore \$950,000 to Human Services Funding
- Eliminate \$5 per quarter Solid waste Fee
- Eliminate Gas Light Fee
- Restore funding to the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission to support the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV)
- Restore funding for each Community Council to 2007 levels
- Restore the Small Arts Capital and Individual Artists Grant Program to 2007 level
- Restore funding to the Cincinnati Film Commission
- Restore the Citizens Survey to align city services with citizen opinions
- Fund capital investments in Music Hall, Union Terminal, and the Cincinnati Art Museum at 2006 levels
- Direct funding to the Mayor's Youth Jobs and Opportunities Fair

Funding for the Mayor's recommendations will come from increased revenue projections and savings from the City's new AFSCME contract.

The Budget will now be considered by City Council to be approved by the end of the year. The Finance Committee of City Council has scheduled the first meeting on the 2008 Budget Update for Monday, December 3, at 1:00 pm.

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